

## A NEW FIJIAN OROCHLESIS

(Coleoptera, Curculionidæ)

BY ELWOOD C. ZIMMERMAN

*Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, T. H.*

The cryptorhynchine genus *Orochlesis* Pascoe, 1873, although distributed from Malaya to the Society Islands, has more than a third of its described species in Fiji. Considerable speciation has taken place in Fiji, and many new species are yet to be described. The following new species is the eighth from Fiji.

My key to the Fijian species (Occasional Papers, B. P. Bishop Museum, Vol. 12, No. 22, 1936) can be amended to include this species by changing the 4 in dichotomy 3 to 3a and inserting the following lines after dichotomy 3:

- 3a. Interocular area not narrowed dorsally, but slightly widened toward the tops of the eyes; a black species.....*ater*  
 Interocular area conspicuously narrowing from the base of the rostrum to the tops of the eyes..... 4

*Orochlesis ater* Zimmerman, n. sp.

Derm shiny black, with the antennæ and tarsi diluted with red; head normally with pale scaling; scales on the pronotum mostly black, but normally with pale scales on either side of the median line and before elytral intervals four and five and with a few scattered pale scales, scales in front of elytral interval three black; elytral scaling black, tessellated with small patches of yellowish brown scales, each interval picked out with rather widely spaced, usually white setæ; pale or white setæ predominating on the legs; scaling on the pleura and below white excepting occasional dark scales or setæ on the fifth ventrite.

Head coarsely, deeply, rather irregularly punctate; interocular area widened instead of narrowed dorsally; scaling sparse, mostly setiform and with only a few elongate-oval scales. Rostrum coarsely punctate only at the extreme base and laterally sulcate to the antennæ, otherwise smooth and shiny, sparsely and minutely punctate. Antennæ with the scape as long as the first four funicular segments; first and second funicular segments subequal in length, the second as long as three plus four plus half of five, three to seven successively slightly more transverse and these combined as long as the club. Prothorax seven-tenths as long as broad, base bisinuate, broadly rounded on the sides to just before

the apex and there with a rather shallow but distinct subapical constriction which is just perceptibly flatly impressed across the dorsum; dorsum otherwise evenly convex; very coarsely, closely, reticulately punctate, the interstices shiny, much narrower than the diameters of the punctures; scaling sparse, not hiding the derm, without round scales, each puncture giving rise to a narrow, elongate, setiform prostrate scale, with a few scattered broader scales near the base. Elytra rather tumid in dorsal and lateral outline, almost evenly arcuate on the sides from the sinuous base to the apex, about two-thirds as broad as long and about three times as long as the prothorax; intervals, at least in the basal half, with small, low, but conspicuous, bare, shiny tubercles and a row of almost prostrate setæ; scaling, except on the tubercles, dense and concealing the derm on the intervals, the scales small; striæ at most shallowly impressed, but with the punctures large, deep and coarse near the base, well spaced, dwindling rapidly in size caudad. Legs with the femora edentate, coarsely punctate, scales sparse above, tibiæ with three carinæ on the outer face in addition to the dorsal and ventral carinæ. Sternum with the mesosternal receptacle strongly and conspicuously protuberant; metasternum deeply impressed immediately in back of the mesosternal receptacle, with large subfovea-form punctures, the hind margin rather deeply emarginate, the narrowest point between the mid and hind coxæ somewhat narrower than a hind coxa. Venter with the first two ventrites with well-defined punctures bearing prostrate squamæ or squamiform setæ, the punctures coarse near the base of the first ventrite; ventrites three and four punctate across their entire lengths; ventrite five densely punctate. Length, 4-6 mm.; breadth, 2.5-3.5 mm.

Fiji: Viti Levu and Taveuni. Holotype collected at light at Korovou, Tailevu, Viti Levu November 9, 1937, by Dr. J. M. Valentine, stored in Bernice P. Bishop Museum, and two paratypes collected at Waiyevo, Taveuni, by Dr. H. S. Evans, one February 29, 1924 (No. 701-11-23) to be deposited in the British Museum, the other March 1, 1924 (No. 793-24) in Bishop Museum.

The first abdominal segment is flattened and impressed in all three specimens, and I therefore consider them males.

The shape of the interocular area which is not narrowed from the base of the rostrum to the top of the eyes, together with the strongly protuberant mesosternal receptacle and sparsely squamose, coarsely punctate pronotum will easily distinguish this species from the other Fijian species.